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## **ABC Receives Complaints of Possible Fraud** *Businesses Warned About Potential Scam*

**Sacramento** – The California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is warning ABC licensees and the public of a possible scam in Southern California involving persons claiming to be representatives of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) targeting ABC licensees.

Callers in the Los Angeles area have reported receiving telephone calls demanding they pay “back taxes” on their ABC license fees. The persons making these telephone calls have identified themselves as IRS representatives.

The ABC wants to make clear that these specific requests are fraudulent. Both ABC and the IRS will always put requests for fees or back taxes in writing.

If anyone receives a call from a person who says they represent the IRS or ABC demanding any payment, they should try to obtain the person's name and contact information, then report it immediately to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at [www.tigta.gov](http://www.tigta.gov), see “IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting” or by calling 800-366-4484. In addition, the IRS provides information about scam reporting. You can find out more by visiting: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>.

ABC is a department of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

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